

**REMARKS**

In light of the above amendments and remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 27-29, 31-32, 38-40, 43-45, and 48-50 are pending in this application. Claims 2-4, 7-9, 11-13, 16-18, 21-23, and 25-26 are canceled.

Applicant appreciates the indication by the Examiner that claims 27-29, 31-32, 38-40, 43-45, and 48-50 are allowed. All other claims have been canceled. Applicant believes this application is now in condition for allowance, since all of the remaining claims are allowed.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

Application No.: 09/403,312

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-1229

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: July 27, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Darren M. Simon

Registration No.: 47,946

LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,

KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP

600 South Avenue West

Westfield, New Jersey 07090

(908) 654-5000

Attorney for Applicant

674240\_1.DOC